

21-2070

The Secretary presents his compliments to their Excellencies and Messieurs and Mesdames the Chiefs of Mission and wishes to bring to their attention additional measures aimed at further combating the spread of COVID-19.

On November 26, 2021, President Joseph R. Biden Jr., signed the *Proclamation on the Suspension of Entry as Immigrants and Non-immigrants of Certain Additional Persons Who Pose a Risk of Transmitting Coronavirus Disease* after the Republic of South Africa informed the World Health Organization of a new Omicron variant that was discovered in their country. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reexamined its policies on international travel and concluded that further measures are required to protect the public health with respect to travelers entering the United States from the Republic of Botswana, the Kingdom of Eswatini, the Kingdom of Lesotho, the Republic of Malawi, the Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Namibia, the Republic of South Africa, and the Republic of Zimbabwe. This proclamation can be found at <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions/2021/11/26/a-proclamation-on-suspension-of-entry-as-immigrants-and-nonimmigrants-of-certain-additional-persons-who-pose-a-risk-of-transmitting-coronavirus-disease-2019/>.

The entry into the United States, as immigrants or non-immigrants, of non-citizens who were physically present within the Republic of Botswana, the Kingdom of Eswatini, the Kingdom of Lesotho, the Republic of Malawi, the Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Namibia, the Republic of South Africa, and the Republic of Zimbabwe during the 14-day period preceding their entry or attempted entry into the United States is suspended and limited subject to section 2 of the proclamation. This proclamation went into effect at 12:01am eastern standard time on November 29, 2021.

This Proclamation exempts certain groups from the suspension of entry. Notably, the entry suspension is not applicable to individuals seeking entry into or who are transiting the United States on A-1, A-2, C-2, C-3 (as a foreign government official or immediate family member of an official), E-1 (as an employee of TECRO or TECO or the employee's immediate family members), G-1, G-2, G-3, G-4, NATO-1 through NATO-4, or NATO-6 (or seeking to enter as a nonimmigrant in one of those NATO categories) visas, or those whose travel falls within the scope of section 11 of the United Nations Headquarters Agreement.

Proclamation 10294, *Advancing the Safe Resumption of Global Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic*, issued on October 25, 2021 and establishing vaccination requirements for entering the United States, is still in effect.

Inquiries concerning this and other matters related to COVID-19 may continue to be transmitted by electronic mail to OFM-EmergencyMGT@state.gov.

Past circular diplomatic notes and notices released by the Office of Foreign

Missions related to COVID-19 may be found at

<https://www.state.gov/office-of-foreign-missions-coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19-information-and-resources/>.

Department of State,

Washington, November 29, 2021.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Jm', is located to the right of the date.